

Remote education provision: information for parents

On any occasion that pupils at Erdington Academy are required to learn from home, we have put in place a variety of strategies to ensure that all pupils can access a high quality, full curriculum. This strategy is dependent on the pupil being well enough to complete their learning activities; we recognise that individual home circumstances vary.

The information below is intended to provide clarity and transparency to pupils and parents or carers about what to expect from remote education when pupils are expected to work from home.

For details of what to expect where individual pupils are self-isolating, please see the final section of this document.

The remote curriculum: what is taught to pupils at home

A pupil's first day or two of being educated remotely might look different from our standard approach, while we take all necessary actions to prepare for a longer period of remote teaching.

What should my child expect from immediate remote education in the first day or two of pupils being sent home?

Your child's teacher will be informed that your child is self-isolating at the end of the day that their absence was reported. If your child was supposed to have a lesson that day, the teacher will contact them via Show My Homework to provide them with the activities from the lesson.

Following the first few days of remote education, will my child be taught broadly the same curriculum as they would if they were in academy?

- We teach the same curriculum remotely as we do in the academy.

Remote teaching and study time each day

How long can I expect work set by the academy to take my child each day?

We expect that remote education (including remote teaching and independent work) will take pupils broadly the following number of hours each day:

Secondary academy-aged pupils not working towards formal qualifications this year	6 hours
Secondary academy-aged pupils working towards formal qualifications this year	6 hours + 1 hour independent study

Accessing remote education

How will my child access any online remote education you are providing?

We are using Show My Homework as well as Microsoft Teams. More information on how to access these platforms can be found on the [Remote Learning](#) page of our website.

If my child does not have digital or online access at home, how will you support them to access remote education?

We recognise that some pupils may not have suitable online access at home. We take the following approaches to support those pupils to access remote education:

- Paper-based versions of all work which can be collect from reception. All work returned to reception will be passed to the relevant teacher. Please contact enquiry@erdington.fmat.co.uk if you require this service.
- Erdington Academy has received a number of laptops and devices that enable an internet connection from the DfE, which have been issued to pupils. As more are received, they will be issued on a case-by-case basis. For more information please contact enquiry@erdington.fmat.co.uk

How will my child be taught remotely?

We use a combination of the following approaches to teach pupils remotely:

- New Learning introduced using a narrated PowerPoint or Microsoft Teams. This is usually a 20-minute teacher input followed by pupils completing the application of their learning.
- A test/quiz to assess pupil understanding of the previous learning.
- An activity that deepens learning which pupils will be asked to submit.
- Each class will have access to a live Q&A drop in sessions on MS Teams for students to access further support if required.
- Feedback from teachers to allow pupils to improve their work and extend their learning.

Engagement and feedback

What are your expectations for my child's engagement and the support that we as parents and carers should provide at home?

- Pupils are expected to complete their learning activities for each subject during the timetabled time in the day.
- Your child can request more work by messaging their teacher through Show My Homework. We would also recommend that your child makes use of the online lessons to support the topics that they are studying. Useful websites include:
 - <https://www.thenational.academy/>
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/bitesize/dailylessons>
- We appreciate that some pupils will find remote learning a challenge. Whilst we encourage pupils to do all they can, we do not want pupils to become overly anxious about falling behind or not managing all of the work set. Equally, there may be issues with access to technology at home that might mean remote learning is a challenge. Please let us know if remote learning is becoming a challenge for your child by informing your child's Head of Year.
- Parents can support their children by setting normal routines for them during the day, for example, a fixed time to take a break and ensure that they eat and drink regularly to maintain concentration.

How will you check whether my child is engaging with their work and how will I be informed if there are concerns?

- Pupils' engagement with their remote learning is monitored by the Pastoral Team and teachers on a daily and weekly basis, through tracking of their time logged in and number of activities completed.
- Should there be a concern regarding a pupil's engagement, we will contact parents/carers by phone to offer support for their child.

How will you assess my child's work and progress?

Feedback can take many forms and may not always mean extensive written comments for individual children. For example, whole-class feedback or quizzes marked automatically via digital platforms are also valid and effective methods, amongst many others. Our approach to feeding back on pupil work is as follows:

- Whole-class feedback or quizzes marked automatically via Show My Homework.
- A weekly timeslot for each class to speak to their subject teacher to receive feedback and ask questions.
- Feedback will be given regularly to all pupils in-line with our feedback procedures; at least two pieces of detailed feedback per half term and a weekly timeslot for each class to speak to their subject teacher to receive feedback and ask questions.

Additional support for pupils with particular needs

How will you work with me to help my child who needs additional support from adults at home to access remote education?

We recognise that some pupils, for example some pupils with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND), may not be able to access remote education without support from adults at home. We acknowledge the difficulties this may place on families, and we will work with parents and carers to support those pupils in the following ways:

- Pupils with SEND have received training in our Autumn Term on how to access the remote learning.
- Pupils will continue to access the full breadth of their curriculum.
- Pupils learning materials have regular, clear instruction, including 'voiceovers' for key information on PowerPoint presentations.
- Pupils finding online access challenging will receive appropriate printed resources such as textbooks.
- Pupils will have frequent contact with teachers through electronic means, and will be able to access learning support school when required.
- Teaching Assistants will make weekly contact with all SEND pupils to identify any further support required, and answer any questions.

Remote education for self-isolating pupils

Where individual pupils need to self-isolate but the majority of their peer group remains in academy, how remote education is provided will likely differ from the approach for whole groups. This is due to the challenges of teaching pupils both at home and in academy.

If my child is not in academy because they are self-isolating, how will their remote education differ from the approaches described above?

Your child's teacher will be informed that your child is self-isolating at the end of the day that their absence was reported. If your child was supposed to have a lesson that day, the teacher will contact them via Show My Homework to provide them with the activities from the lesson.

How can my child ask the teacher questions if they need support with the work?

Your child can send a message to their teacher via Show My Homework. To do this they must be logged into their own Show My Homework account and not a parent account. Only a personal pupil account will enable your child to ask the teacher questions via the SMH message function.

Can my child submit their work to the teacher?

Yes they can, and they should be submitting work for feedback while they are absent. When a pupil sends a message to their teacher there is an option to attach a file to the message. Pupils should use this function to send their work. If they have handwritten their work, they can take a photo of it on their mobile phone and then attach the photo so that their teacher can provide feedback on their work.

What type of work will be set?

Pupils will be set the work that other pupils have covered in class. Normally this will be in the form of the lesson PowerPoint with some instructions / voiceover to explain the learning activities.

What should my child do when they return to the academy?

We would encourage your child to be proactive and to do the following:

- Show their teachers work completed during remote learning period (if they haven't submitted it via Show My Homework).
- Ask for any resources they have missed during this time.
- Asks their teacher for advice if they are experiencing any difficulties with the content of lessons on their return to school.